

that we have to keep adding to the administration or just keep the same number that we have had all these years, growing by leaps and bounds. As for the juvenile mischief that some of the recreation areas are designed to take care of, why do we have a volunteer park patrol in Omaha watching these juveniles who go around and break the windows on the tennis courts that were built for their benefit? So they aren't really helping juvenile mischief that much, but that is a petty point anyway. I'm just saying once and for all, Senators, if you want to quit being blamed for the rise in property taxes, in Omaha the biggest share of our property taxes, more than 50 percent, goes to education and they have had an increase in our property values in just two years of 30 1/2 percent. Instead of lowering the property taxes, instead of lowering their budget, out of a \$138 million budget they only lowered it 127,000 and then 500,000 on some construction. Maybe it was another parking lot they decided not to build, I don't know.

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR HIGGINS: But I would hope that you would vote for this amendment just to send a message to the schools saying, if we cut state aid to education, we don't want you to cut programs, but we do want you to cut these things that are not necessary because times are tough. It is a depression we are in. You don't keep buying cake when you can't afford meat and potatoes. You don't go out and buy a brand new car if you can't pay your light and gas bill. Other schools get by with the parents raising the funds for these extracurricular activities and still support two school systems. I think those parents that want tennis and golf and swimming should be more than happy to have the bake sales and the school festivals to pay for them. I don't think the taxpayers should have to pay for those things. But most important, this amendment is designed so that the school boards can no longer say, we're raising your taxes because the Legislature is to blame, they cut your aid. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you, Senator Higgins. The question is the adoption of the Higgins amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted that care to? Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 8 ayes, 13 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the amendment.